

AMENDMENTS**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-94 (Canceled)

Claim 95 (New): A polypeptide comprising a portion but not all of the extracellular domain of anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) having GenBank accession number U66559, wherein said portion comprises amino acid positions 368 to 447, and wherein said polypeptide is capable of binding pleiotrophin (PTN).

Claim 96 (New): The polypeptide of claim 95, wherein said polypeptide lacks tyrosine kinase activity.

Claim 97 (New): The polypeptide of claim 95, wherein said polypeptide is soluble.

Claim 98 (New): The polypeptide of claim 95, wherein said portion consists essentially of amino acid positions 368 to 447.

Claim 99 (New): The polypeptide of claim 95 bound to PTN.

Claim 100 (New): The polypeptide of claim 95 immobilized on a surface.

Claim 101 (New): A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98.

Claim 102 (New): The composition of claim 101, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 103 (New): The composition of claim 101, wherein said polypeptide is present in said composition in a therapeutically effective amount.

Claim 104 (New): The composition of claim 101, further comprising PTN.

Claim 105 (New): The composition of claim 101, further comprising PTN and a test substance.

Claim 106 (New): A method of screening the ability of a test substance to block binding of PTN with ALK, comprising comparing a measurement of the binding of PTN with the polypeptide

of claim 95, 97 or 98 obtained in the presence of the substance, with a control measurement to obtain a value.

Claim 107 (New): The method of claim 106, wherein said control measurement is the measurement of binding of PTN with said polypeptide obtained in the absence of said substance.

Claim 108 (New): A method of screening the ability of a test substance to block binding of PTN with ALK, comprising:

obtaining a first measurement of the binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98; obtaining a second measurement of the binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98, wherein said first measurement is performed in the absence of the substance and said second measurement is performed in the presence of said substance; and comparing said first measurement to said second measurement to obtain a value.

Claim 109 (New): A method of screening the ability of a test substance to block binding of PTN with ALK, comprising:

incubating the substance with PTN and the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 under conditions suitable for binding of PTN to said polypeptide; obtaining a measurement of the binding; and comparing the measurement of said binding with a control measurement, to obtain a value.

Claim 110 (New): The method of claim 109, wherein the control measurement is the measurement of binding of PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 obtained in the absence of said substance.

Claim 111 (New): A method for inhibiting binding of PTN with ALK, comprising contacting PTN with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 in the presence of ALK and under conditions suitable for binding of PTN with said polypeptide.

Claim 112 (New): The method of claim 111, wherein ALK is expressed by a cell.

Claim 113 (New): The method of claim 112, wherein said cell is a tumor cell.

Claim 114 (New): The method of claim 111 wherein said ALK is immobilized to a surface.

Claim 115 (New): A method for blocking ALK activity, comprising contacting a cell expressing ALK with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 in the presence of PTN and under conditions suitable to inhibit binding of PTN with said ALK, thereby blocking ALK activity.

Claim 116 (New): A method for blocking ALK activity, comprising contacting ALK with the polypeptide of claim 95, 97 or 98 in the presence of PTN and under conditions suitable to inhibit binding of PTN with said ALK, thereby blocking ALK activity.

Claim 117 (New): The method of claim 115, wherein said cell is a tumor cell.

Claim 118 (New): The method of claim 116, wherein said ALK is immobilized on a surface.